



BOROUGH OF KIDDERMINSTER

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR

1970

COLIN STARKIE, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., B.Sc.,
(Medical Officer of Health)

J. WHITTINGSLOW, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., (Chief Public Health Inspector)



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GOVERNMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF

HEALTH

1970

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

1970 - 1971.

Chairman	Alderman A.H. Humphries.
Vice Chairman	Councillor J.M.Freeman,T.D.
HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (ex officio)..	...	...	...	Councillor C.G. Dance.
Alderman W.S. Carter	...	...	...	Councillor A.J. Batchelor.
Councillor N. Broome (From 4.11.70)	...	...	...	Councillor Mrs.R.Chamberlain.
Councillor W.J. Cotterell ..	...	...	...	Councillor G.F. Davies.
Councillor Lady Eddy	...	...	...	Councillor W.E. Fish.
Councillor J.H.R. Hay (to 31.10.70)				

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE BOROUGH.

Medical Officer of Health.

COLIN STARKIE, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., B.Sc.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Food and Drugs Inspector:

J.B. HINTON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector)

(to 2nd December)

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector and Food and Drugs Inspector:

J. WHITTINGSLOW, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,

(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector).

(Chief Public Health Inspector from 3rd December)

Public Health Inspectors:

N.MILLINER, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector).

D. KNIGHT, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector)

Assistant to Public Health Inspectors:

R.A. ROGERS

Authorised Meat Inspector:

H.E. ELLISON

Inspector.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963:

MRS. S.A. COLLINS

Cleansing Superintendent:

S.B. LORD, A.M.I.W.H.S.

Public Analyst:

W.E. JONES, M.Sc., F.R.I.C.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR 1969 and 1970.

	1969	1970
Area of district in Acres.	4,694	4,694
Population at Census 1961.	40,822	40,822
Estimated Population (mid-year) for Birth Rate and Death Rate.	46,740	47,000
No. of inhabited houses estimated.	16,280	16,871
No. of persons per house.	2.81	2.18
Rateable value.	£2,228,745	£2,322,268
Sum represented by Penny Rate.	£9,283	£9,700
No. of Marriages.	441	479
No. of Live Births.	938	885
No. of Still Births.	15	8
Birth Rate (Live) (Corrected).	20.1	18.8
Birth Rate for England and Wales. (Live).	16.3	16.0
No. of illegitimate Births.	88	59
No. of deaths under one year of age.	19	17
of these there were illegitimate	1	1
INFANTILE MORTALITY PER 1,000 BIRTHS.	20.0	19.0
Infantile Mortality for England and Wales.	18.0	18.0
Maternal Mortality Rate, England and Wales	0.15	0.24
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births)	NIL	NIL
Number of deaths.	560	551
Death Rate (Corrected)	11.5	11.1
Death Rate for England and Wales	11.9	11.7
Number of Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	1	1
Number of Deaths from Cancer	95	53
Number of Deaths from Influenza.	3	9
Number of Deaths from Measles.	NIL	NIL
Number of Deaths from Whooping Cough	NIL	NIL

Year	Live Births	Deaths	Births over Deaths Increase
1961	712	534	178
1962	776	517	259
1963	781	532	249
1964	834	532	302
1965	816	458	358
1966	842	531	311
1967	922	501	421
1968	878	520	358
1969	938	560	378
1970	885	551	334

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1970

5-9, Church Street,
Kidderminster.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

An Annual Report is essentially a record of the years' events. It may either be read or used only as a reference book. If it is long and wordy it will not be read - no one has time for verbiage these days.

In this report a few subjects have been briefly commented on but much of the information is in the form of tables. It is hoped that the report will be both informative and interesting.

Further information on any health matter is always given by this department to any member of the public.

Throughout the year I have been fully supported by the chairman and members of the Health Committee and by every member of the Department staff and also by colleagues in other departments, and to all these I am most grateful.

Yours obediently,

COLIN STARKIE

Medical Officer of Health.

POPULATION.

There is an increase of 260 to a total now of 47,000 inhabitants of the borough.

The Birth Rate is down to 18.8 per 1000 persons, and is above the national rate of 16.0.

The Infantile Mortality Rate of 19 compares unfavourably with 18.0 which is the National Rate.

There were 59 illegitimate births.

The Death Rate of 11.1 is almost the same as the National Death Rate. 48 men died from Cancer 14 of these being cancer of the lung with which cigarette smoking is so definitely associated.

HOUSING.

The demolition and replacement of old and worn out houses is fully dealt with in the Public Health Inspector's report on page 23

HOUSES BUILT.

Number of houses built by private enterprise	...	...	399
Number of houses built by Local Authority	...	...	85
Total number of Corporation houses in the Borough at 31.12.70	...	...	4,769
Total number of applicants on housing waiting list at 1.1.70	...	...	635
Total number of applicants on housing waiting list at 31.12.70	...	...	439

The total number of corporation houses completed and occupied during the year 1970 was 85 in the following types:-

2 bedroom bungalows	...	...	13
1 bedroom flats & bed sitters	...	...	52
2 bedroom flats	...	...	1
3 bedroom houses	...	...	19
Number of houses vacated and re-let during 1970	...	...	254
Number of Aged Persons Units built up to 31.12.70	...	...	851

ALL AGED PERSONS UNITS ARE NOW COVERED BY WARDENS.

The weekly inclusive rents for Corporation dwellings ranged between 42/4 for pre-war Aged Persons bungalows, £7.10.11 3 bedroomed house with garage and central heating. (Offmore Farm).

One-bedroomed premises are most useful for the aged, for people living alone and even for childless married couples.

For the increasing number of old people it will be most useful to have a large number of one-bedroomed flatlets, grouped round common sitting rooms, centrally heated and with a Resident Warden. Purcell House on the Habberley Estate is the first of the old peoples residences to be completed and has 41 separate units, centrally heated and with Resident Warden.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Being so favourably situated, Kidderminster should enjoy a fresh clean atmosphere unpolluted by any surrounding towns.

It has not yet achieved any smoke restricted zones and in the absence of anti-pollution laws, many people suffer from their own and neighbours filthy domestic chimneys or garden refuse bonfires.

A further note on Atmospheric Pollution will be found on Page 31

WATER SUPPLY.

There has been an adequate supply of water pumped from deep wells and augmented from the Birmingham source of water in the Elan Valley. The water has always proved to be of excellent quality although totally lacking in fluoride which is essential for building decay-resistant teeth. Until the community insists on sufficient fluoride being added to the water supply, it will continue to suffer the enormous amount of dental decay now found all over the town.

GENERAL HEALTH.

Dental decay is the chief preventable condition in Mothers and children who are generally very healthy.

Older people, especially men are more liable to suffer from increasing bronchitis, coronary, thrombosis and lung cancer often brought about by heavy cigarette smoking.

Lung cancer deaths in England & Wales are now at 30,280 of which 5,370 occurred in Women.

The smokers induced diseases continue to increase. WHEN WILL THEY LEARN!

DEATHS IN 1970.

<u>Total</u>	551
<u>Causes</u> (See also Page 11)	
Heart and Circulatory	215
Intracranial Haemorrhage (Stroke)	80
Cancer other than lung	67
Respiratory - Pneumonia and bronchitis	66
Lung Cancer	15

During the last 20 years the average expectation of life has increased from 64 - 68 for men and from 69 - 74 for women. We do not know what causes this difference in expectation of life between the sexes.

DEATHS IN 1970 Contd

The ages at which resident deaths have taken place during 1970 are as follows:-

Under 4 weeks	12
4 weeks and under 1 year	5
Between 1 and 5 years	8
Between 5 and 15 years	1
Between 15 and 25 years	6
Between 25 and 35 years	3
Between 35 and 45 years	16
Between 45 and 55 years	30
Between 55 and 65 years	75
Between 65 and 75 years	160
75 years and upwards	235

NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM EACH DISEASE.

Cause of Death	Male	Female
1. Enteritis & Other Diarrhoeal Diseases.	-	1
2. Late Effects of Respiratory T.B.	-	1
3. Other Infective & Parasitic Diseases.	1	-
4. Malignant Neoplasm, Oesphagus.	-	2
5. " " Stomach.	10	-
6. " " Intestine.	6	5
7. " " Larynx.	1	-
8. " " Lung, Bronchus.	14	1
9. " " Breast.	-	8
10. " " Uterus.	-	3
11. " " Prostate.	2	-
12. Leukaemia.	-	1
13. Other Malignant Neoplasms.	15	14
14. Diabetes Mellitus.	2	5
15. Other Endocrine etc. Diseases.	1	3
16. Anaemias.	1	-
17. Meningitis.	1	-
18. Multiple Sclerosis.	-	1
19. Other Diseases of Nervous System.	1	3
20. Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease.	10	8
21. Hypertensive Disease.	5	7
22. Ischaemic Heart Disease.	69	68
23. Other Forms of Heart Disease.	9	31
24. Cerebrovascular Disease.	38	42
25. Other Diseases of Circulatory System.	3	5
26. Influenza.	5	4
27. Pneumonia.	11	18
28. Bronchitis & Emphysema.	27	10
29. Asthma.	-	1
30. Other Diseases of Respiratory System.	1	3
31. Peptic Ulcer.	5	3
32. Appendicitis.	1	-
33. Intestinal Obstruction & Hernia	2	-
34. Cirrhosis of Liver	2	-
35. Other Diseases of Digestive System.	4	3
36. Nephritis & Nephrosis.	1	1
37. Hyperplasia of Prostate.	1	-
38. Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System.	1	2
39. Diseases of Skin., Subcutaneous Tissue.	1	-
40. Congenital Anomalies.	4	2
41. Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc.	3	-
42. Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality.	3	2
43. Other Defines & Ill Defines Diseases.	2	1
44. Motor Vehicle Accidents.	6	1
45. All Other Accidents.	11	9
46. Suicide & Self Inflicted Injuries.	1	-
47. All Other External Causes.	1	-
	282	269

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

Preventive Measures.

Diphtheria

737 primary immunisations were completed and 934 reinforcing injections were given.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

773 primary immunisations were completed and 964 reinforcing doses were given orally.

German Measles.

614 injections were given. Vaccination was offered and accepted by 767 12 year school girls in the area.

Tuberculosis.

The miniature Mass Radiography Unit visited the Borough every Monday from 2-30 p.m. to 4-0 p.m. to examine ante-natal Patients, patients referred by general practitioners and other members of the public. B.C.G. inoculation was offered to the 13 year and older children and was accepted by 85.3%

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1970.

Diseases.	Total cases notified.	Total Deaths.
Dysentery	1	NIL
Scarlet Fever	10	NIL
Pneumonia	NIL	29
Measles	434	NIL
Infective Hepatitis	102	NIL

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 2 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 2 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified. One death was due to Tuberculosis.

Year	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	New Cases.	Deaths.	New Cases.	Deaths.
1960	21	6	3	NIL
1961	9	NIL	6	NIL
1962	17	3	1	NIL
1963	15	4	NIL	NIL
1964	9	5	NIL	NIL
1965	8	NIL	1	NIL
1966	7	NIL	1	NIL
1967	12	NIL	2	NIL
1968	6	3	8	1
1969	12	1	2	NIL
1970	2	1	2	NIL

SPECIAL SERVICES.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

These services are the direct responsibility of the Worcestershire County Council and are discussed in the County Medical Officer's Report.

LABORATORY SERVICE.

The standing arrangements with the County Analyst have remained in force. The Public Health Laboratory, Worcester, is available for examination of medical specimens.

The Medical Practitioners of the Borough also use the Laboratory at the General Hospital.

CARE OF OLD PEOPLE.

The housing of old people is a prime essential and is discussed on Page 8.

The local housing authority has some responsibility for providing accommodation for old people well enough to look after themselves, and the county authority has responsibility for providing homes and wardens where infirmity makes it difficult or impossible for an old person to live alone.

In addition there are voluntary organisations to help old people e.g. The Kidderminster Association for the Welfare of Old People, The Abbeyfield House Association, Meals on Wheels organised by J.R.V.S., and many others giving excellent help.

More people are living to old age and will require more home supportive services e.g. home helps, district nurses, bathing attendants, laundry facilities, chiropody, short stay convalescent homes etc.

An old persons Day Centre will be opened in 1971.

PUBLIC MORTUARY.

The agreement made between the Borough and the Mid-Worcestershire Hospital Management Committee, whereby for an annual payment the Borough use the Kidderminster General Hospital's Mortuary, continued to work satisfactorily.

HEALTH INFORMATION.

The community provides the facilities for healthy living, but unless people use what they have, correctly, they will not enjoy good health to the full.

When rules for the preparation and storage of food are broken, there is a health risk.

When ventilation systems are improperly used, danger can occur. When garbage is thrown about, vermin increase with consequent risk to both finance and health.

On these and many other subjects all members of the Health Department are constantly giving information, which is sometimes ignored to the detriment of those advised.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Clinic	Situation and time of Session	Provided by
Maternity and Child Welfare Centres	Holy Innocents' Hall, Foley Park - Monday 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m. Methodist Church Hall, Broadwaters - Mondays 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m. Birchen Coppice Church Hall - 2nd and 4th Tuesday 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m. Franche Church Hall, Franche - Tuesday 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m. Coventry Street Clinic - Thursday 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m. Comberton Church Hall - Tuesday 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m. Habberley Church Hall - Wednesday 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m.	County Council
Tuberculosis	Kidderminster General Hospital - Wednesday 10.30 a.m. and 3-0 p.m. Thursday 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m.	Regional Hospital Board
Consultative Ante-Natal Clinic	Kidderminster General Hospital - Weekly, Wednesday 11.0 a.m.	Regional Hospital Board
Family Planning Clinic	Coventry Street Clinic Wednesday 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m. Tuesday 5-30 p.m. to 7-0 p.m.	Family Planning Association
Chiropody Service	Monday morning and afternoon every other Tuesday morning, every Tuesday afternoon. Wednesday morning and Thursday afternoon. Friday morning and afternoon.	County Council
Cytology Clinic	Coventry Street Clinic By appointment.	County Council

REPORT OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Lady, Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Department for the year ending 31st December, 1970.

During the majority of the year the Department was headed by my predecessor, Mr. J.B. Hinton who retired on 2nd December 1970 and it is to him that most of the credit for the work accomplished should go. His retirement after over 50 years service to Kidderminster Borough should not go unremarked.

The main work of the Department has proceeded and has been supplemented by additional duties in respect of Qualification Certificate procedure under the Housing Act 1969 and the preparation of Schedules of Repair Works in connection with Improvement Grant Applications.

It became necessary during the year for the two additional cells, which were allowed for in the original design of the refuse destructor plant, to be added. This may be taken as some measure of the rapid increase in the bulk of the refuse being dealt with as it was not anticipated that these additional cells would be required for some years.

I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support, to the Medical Officer of Health and the other Chief Officers of the Council for their help and cooperation, to Mr. W.E. Jones, County Analyst and Dr. R.J. Henderson, Director of the Public Health Laboratory Service at Worcester for their advice and to the staff of the Public Health Department for their loyalty and conscientious performance of their duties.

J. WHITTINGSLOW

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE AND MEAT INSPECTION.

The Borough now has five private slaughterhouses as against six last year and eight some three years ago. The number is being steadily reduced and only those which reach the very high standard demanded by existing legislation are likely to survive. It is anticipated that a further reduction in the number of slaughterhouses is likely in the near future.

Extensive constructional improvements have been made in the past year at one of the slaughterhouses, partly as a result of requirements of Home legislation and partly to satisfy "Export" Regulations. The lairage is to be extended in the near future and when these works have been completed, we shall have an abattoir which, with cooperation from all concerned, should be a show-piece.

Particular attention has been paid throughout the year to ensure that all animals are slaughtered in a humane manner. Whilst the available modern appliances and equipment should ensure this, the shortcomings of human nature unfortunately do not.

Faults and carelessness in slaughtering techniques have been noted and have demanded immediate and positive remedial action by my Inspectorial staff. A policy of constant supervision and diligence has since been applied and I am satisfied it has had the desired effect. It has not been considered necessary to institute proceeding against anyone.

THE MEAT INSPECTIONS REGULATIONS 1963.

Meat Inspection generally is causing no major problems. All animals killed are inspected at the time of slaughter or as soon as possible thereafter in accordance with the Regulations.

THE MEAT INSPECTION (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1966.

The days and hours during which slaughtering is permitted within the District have continued unaltered during the year.

MEAT AND EDIBLE OFFAL CONDEMNED.

DISEASE	TONS	CWTS	LBS
Cirrhosis, Distomatosis	8	4	36
Pyogenic Abscesses	1	10	97
Necrosis	1	9	45
Tuberculosis	1	8	17
Angiomatosis	1	5	34
Pleurisy, Peritonitis & Pericarditis	1	4	44
Septicaemia	1	4	37
Parasitic Cysts	1	4	6
Emaciation & Oedema	1	4	3
Moribund & Imperfect Bleeding	1	1	109
Septic Arthritis		14	59
Pyæmia		11	16
Septic Mastitis		9	56
Arthritis		8	91
Hydatid Cysts		8	76
Injury & Bruising		6	106
Toxaemia		5	45
Actinobacillosis		5	36
Uraemia		3	64
Septic Metritis		3	34
Cysticercus Bovis		3	2
Contamination		2	1
Pneumonia		1	87
Xanthosis		1	84
Septic Peritonitis		1	18
Actinomycosis			109
Immaturity			95
Enteritis			85
Hydronephrosis			53
Acetonaemia			48
Nephritis			34
Umbilical Pyæmia			28
Fatty Change			26
Congestion			26
Urticaria			16

Total weight condemned - 24 tons. 8 cwts. 43 lbs.

CARCASES, INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	5,334	742	104	19,227	16,478
Number inspected	5,334	742	104	19,227	16,473
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS:</u> Whole carcasses condemned	7	5	16	24	75
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1,476	297	-	2,409	1,865
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis.	27.9	40.0	15.4	10.2	11.2
<u>TUBERCULOSIS:</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	194
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	1.2
<u>CYSTICERCUS BOVIS:</u> Whole carcasses condemned	1	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	23	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with Cysticercus Bovis	0.4	-	-	-	-

OTHER FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED.

5,744 Tins, Packets & Jars of Various Foodstuffs
(estimated weight 1 ton 5 cwt 73 lbs.)

58 cwt	Miscellaneous Frozen Foods	198 lbs	Peaches
880 lbs	Cheese	184 lbs	Cabbages
794 lbs	Dressed Poultry	90 lbs	Tinned Tongue
784 lbs	Carrots	73 lbs	Corned Beef
784 lbs	Bacon Joints	56 lbs	Ice-Cream
568 lbs	Cauliflowers	38 lbs	Shelled walnuts
448 lbs	Beef	16 lbs	Pork Sausages
278 lbs	Tinned Ham & Pork	15 lbs	Delicatessen Products
245 lbs	Yoghurt	6 lbs	Jellied Veal
210 lbs	Tinned lamb livers	220	Melons

<u>Summary</u>	T.	C.	lbs.
Total weight (Meat and Foods) condemned	31	5	51
Total weight (Meat) Condemned	24	8	43

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958.

One of the principal requirements of this Act is to ensure that persons engaged in the slaughtering of food animals hold a licence and these licences specify the kind of animals which may be slaughtered and the types of instruments to be used. The licences are for periods of 12 months and require renewal at the end of that time. Persons holding such licences must be over 18 years of age and competent to discharge their duties.

Number of Licences in force - 30

No Ritual Slaughter took place in the Borough during the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

ICE-CREAM - Registration of premises.

Number of premises where Ice-Cream is manufactured, stored or sold.

Manufacturers (complete cold mix only)	1
Premises where wrapped Ice-Cream only is sold	159
Premises where wrapped Ice-Cream and bulk is sold (Does not include Cafes)	2

From the above table it will be readily appreciated that most of the Ice-Cream sold in this Borough is supplied by large manufacturers whose premises are outside our district. This is achieved mainly by either bulk deliveries to retail shops and stores or by retail vans.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

ROUTINE SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR.

Total number of samples taken for chemical analysis during the year. 132

<u>Nature of Samples.</u>	<u>Number Taken.</u>	<u>Nature of Samples.</u>	<u>Number Taken.</u>
Beverage Mix	1	Meat Products (Open Pack)	
Bread	5	Meat & Vegetable	
Butter	2	Pies	2
Cake	1	Faggots	1
Cereal Products	2	Meat Pies	14
Cheese Spread	3	Sausage rolls	4
Cream	4	Meat Paste	4
Cream Confectionery	5	Meat, Potted	1
Coffee Extract	1	Margarine	3
Dessert preparations	1	Milk	17
Fish, Canned	2	Milk, Evaporated	2
Fish Products	1	Milk Pudding (Canned)	1
Fish, Frozen	5	Sausage, Pork	9
Flour Confectionery	1	Sausage, Beef	4
Fruit Juice	2	Soft Drinks	2
Honey	1	Spices	3
Gravy Browning	1	Sauce	2
Ice-Cream	3	Sugar Confectionery	4
Jams and Marmalade	4	Tea	1
Lard	2	Tomato Puree	1
Meat Products (Canned)	5	Vegetables, Dried	1
		Vegetable Salad	2
		Vinegar	1
		Vitamin Capsules	1

ACTION TAKEN REGARDING SAMPLES IRREGULAR.

<u>Sample No.</u>	<u>Sample of</u>	<u>Deficiency or Condition</u>	<u>Result, Action etc.,</u>
1073	Margarine with 10% butter	Low in butter content 7.8%	Further sample genuine
35	Steak & Kidney Pie	Slightly deficient in meat.	Further sample genuine
44	Cornish Pastie	Low meat content 10%	Further sample genuine
45	Pork sausages	Undeclared preservative.	Retailers attention drawn to requirements.
59	Pork sausage	Slightly deficient in lean meat.	Manufacturer's attention drawn to deficiency.

BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLES.

Examination of Milk.

The following is a table showing the number of samples taken and results:-

Sample	No.	Methylene Blue Test			Phosphatase Test		Turbidity Test
		Passed	Failed	Void	Passed	Failed	Passed
Pasteurised	41	30	4	7	41	-	-
Sterilised	8	-	-	-	-	-	8

ROUTINE SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR.

The sampling of certain types of foods for bacteriological examination continues to be used to assess the cleanliness of their preparation etc. Below is a synopsis of the samples taken:

(a) Ice-Cream.

Samples Submitted	Grades			
	1	2	3	4
3	2	1	-	-

(b) Other Foods

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>Number of Samples taken.</u>
Faggots	4
Sausages	1
Salmon	1
Cod Filletts	1

WATER SAMPLES

Two samples of mains water were taken during the year and submitted for Bacteriological Examination. These were in addition to the routine samples taken by the Water Board, the results of which are forwarded to this Department by the Board. The samples indicated that the water was fit for drinking.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS 1963.

At the end of the year the following licences were in force:-

Pasteurised Milk	Processing Plants	1
	Dealers (prepacked milk)	33
Sterilised Milk	Processing Plants	1
	Dealers (prepacked milk)	55
Ultra-Heat Treated Milk	Dealers (prepacked milk)	13

MILK AND DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1959.

Number of Distributors registered	6
Number of Dairy Premises registered	2

FOOD COMPLAINTS.

During the year 64 complaints concerning food were received. This again was an increase on the previous year and reflects the Public's growing concern. It is inevitable that with modern methods of preservation, packaging and selling complaints will always occur and to some extent this is the price that has to be paid for having "convenience" foods. In many cases the complaints were either misconceived or made too late for formal action to be taken. Two cases resulted in prosecutions, 6 strong verbal warnings were given and 2 warning letters were sent.

SUMMARY OF FOOD PREMISES.

The figures of various categories of food business are given below:

<u>TRADE.</u>	<u>Total number of premises.</u>
Bakehouses	5
Butchers	32
Cafes, Restaurants	24
Confectioners	13
Fish & Chip Shops	15
Greengrocers	18
Grocers, General Stores	103
Industrial Canteens	20
Licensed Houses	70
Meat Product Manufacturers and Processors	21
Multiple Stores	10
Sugar Confectioners	13
Wholesale Warehouses	4

HOUSING ACT 1957.

The culmination of a considerable amount of work in this direction was the representation of 168 unfit houses forming the Edward Street areas which were ultimately included in a Compulsory Purchase Order.

Housing Act, 1969.

During the year owners of tenanted houses began to take advantage of the procedure whereby they could obtain a fair rent for the property if it fulfilled certain conditions concerning amenities and repair. This legislation has long been overdue and already shows signs of being the means whereby many tenanted houses can be brought up to a satisfactory state of repair. The other procedure whereby tenanted houses without certain amenities could also become rent regulated had not been made use of to any extent by the end of the year. However owner-occupiers of houses without the standard amenities showed renewed interest in Improvement Grants, one condition for which, was a good standard of repair and the Department was increasingly engaged in providing Schedules of Repairs required in conjunction with Improvement Grant applications.

Set out below is a synopsis of the work.

(a) Action under Housing Act, 1957.

No. of houses represented for Demolition Orders.	2
No. of Demolition Orders made.	2
No. of Houses represented for Closing Orders	1
No. of Closing Orders made (whole houses)	1
No. of Closing Orders made (part of a building)	-
Undertakings not to use house accepted	29
Undertakings to repair house accepted	1
Number of houses represented, Clearance Areas	168
Number of houses actually demolished during year	76
Number of houses closed	3
Number of persons displaced	51

A Public Enquiry was held during the year into the Churchfields Redevelopment Declaration of Unfitness Order in which there were 33 unfit houses in 3 areas. The Order was subsequently confirmed.

(b) Action under Housing Act, 1969.

No. of application for Qualification Certificates (Section 44(i))	72
No. of Certificates issued	9
No. of applications under consideration at end of year	60
No. of Repairs Schedules provided (Section 44(ii))	84

(c) Action under Public Health Acts.

Houses in which defects were remedied by Owners.

after informal action by Local Authority	40
after formal action by Local Authority	8
Preliminary Notices served	62
Intimation letters sent	10
Statutory Notices served	10

Set out below is a summary of defects remedied.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENT ACT, 1957.

There was no activity under this Act during the year.

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS REMEDIED (HOUSES) YEAR 1970.

DWELLING HOUSES.

Roofs repaired	19
Chimney stacks repointed/repared	5
Defective spouting repaired, refixed or new provided	10
House brickwork repointed/repared	6
Plasterwork repaired, or renewed	6
Windows repaired, sashcords provided	7
Floors repaired	3
Stairs or steps repaired	2
Woodwork of doors repaired or new ones provided ..	4
Rendering of external walls	3
Firegrate repaired	1

WATER-CLOSETS.

Derelict structures demolished	1
Roofs repaired	1
New pedestal pans provided	7
Flushing cistern repaired or new provided	9
Leaking water-closet joints repaired	3
Seats provided	2
Provision of adequate water supply to cistern	5

DRAINAGE.

Obstructed drains cleared	65
Drains relaid or repaired	4

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS, INTERVIEWS AND

OTHER VISITS.

Qualification Certificates	26
Civic Amenities Act (Abandoned Vehicles)	274
House Inspections (Public Health and Housing Acts)	580
Drain Testing	37
Interview with Owner or Builder	56
Enquiry Inspections	48
Improvement Grant Inspections	132
Official Searches re Property	26
Common Lodging House Visits	2
Offensive Trades Visits	1
Rodent Control	230
Refuse Disposal	165
Infectious Diseases	8
Private Slaughterhouses (Meat Inspection)	1,353
Private Slaughterhouses (Construction)	17
Food Preparing Premises	28
Retail Food Shops	56
Ice-Cream Retailers	2
Tinned Food and other articles of food examination	132
Food and Drugs Sampling	77
Interview in Office	285
Other complaints and miscellaneous visits	955
Atmospheric Pollution (Clean Air Act)	48
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act	779
Keeping of Animals	10
Tents, Vans & Sheds (Human occupation)	5
Markets & Stalls	11
Noise	9
Factory Act	1
Licensed Premises	9

MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS.

Summary proceedings were instituted in the following cases during the year.

Nature of Offence	Enactment Contravened	Result
Selling a packet of biscuits unfit for human consumption.	Food & Drugs Act, 1955 Section 8 (i)	Fined £25 plus £5.5.0 costs.
Selling a packet of sausages unfit for human consumption.	Food & Drugs Act, 1955 Section 8 (i)	Fined £10 plus £5.5.0 costs.
Selling two steak and kidney puddings unfit for human consumption.	Food & Drugs Act, 1955 Section 8 (i)	Fined £25 plus £6.5.0 costs.
Selling black pudding not of the substance demanded.	Food & Drugs Act, 1955 Section 2.	Fined £10 plus £5.5.0 costs.
Selling a joint of boiling bacon unfit for human consumption.	Food & Drugs Act, 1955 Section 8 (i)	Fined £25 plus £5.5.0 costs plus 5/10d restitution
Selling two chocolate mini rolls unfit for human consumption.	Food & Drugs Act, 1955 Section 3 (i)	Fined £20 plus £6.6.0 costs & £3.3.0 expenses
Selling a carton of Yoghurt unfit for human consumption.	Food & Drugs Act, 1955 Section 8 (i)	Fined £40 plus £10.10.0 costs.

DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES, CLOTHING ETC.,

The Department is called upon for help in the eradication of insects with many requests of a varied nature. Help is given whenever possible. Disinfestation against the more common house pests, viz: bed bugs and fleas being the main feature.

In these cases the spraying of infested premises, furniture and other fittings with an insecticide which contains both 'knock-down' and 'residual' properties is the method usually applied, sometimes supplemented with gaseous fumigation. Where possible such fittings as picture rails, skirting boards, architraves and wall papers are removed so as to facilitate the work.

Number of disinfestations carried out by the Local Authority:-

Bedbugs	6	Fleas	6	Cockroaches	8
Flies	2	Ants	5	Wasps	4

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There is only one offensive trade registered, that of a Gut Scraper.

MORTUARY.

The arrangements with the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board by which the mortuary facilities at the Kidderminster General Hospital was made available for the reception of bodies which would otherwise have been taken to the Council's own mortuary continued during the year. 131 bodies (Coroner's Cases) were received under this arrangement.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions.	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	8	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	194	1	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	202	1	-	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1961 Contd

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(if defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they are reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars	Found	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted.
		Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspec- tor.	By H.M. Inspec- tor.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature. (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventila- tion (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conven- iences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	1	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	1	-	-	-	-

OUTWORKERS.

Notifications were received in respect of two employees resident in the district. They were engaged in (a) altering wearing apparel and (b) assembling pocket folders.

RODENT CONTROL. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Two rodent operatives are employed, who in addition to their duties as such also carry out the work of disinfection and disinfestation. The work entailed covers private houses, business premises, refuse disposal sites and main sewers. There are a few cases of business premises where private firms are engaged in rodent control and disinfestations.

A disturbing feature of this work is the increasing resistance of rodents, particularly mice, to warfarin and other anticoagulant poisons. It has been necessary to use, on occasions, other poisons which whilst effective are not so convenient to use.

A summary of the work is set out below:-

	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
No. of properties in district	19,840	5
No. of properties inspected as a result of notification	475	1
Number infested by		
(a) Rats	377	1
(b) Mice	115	-
No. of properties inspected for reasons other than notification.	829	-
Number infested by		
(a) Rats	624	-
(b) Mice	414	-

SEWER TREATMENTS.

Number of manholes poison baited 97

During the year the Council departed from its previous practice and employed an outside firm to treat the sewers for rats. This was affected by one visit during which Fluoracetamide baits were laid in manholes where rats were known to be active. A significant number of bodies were subsequently reported to have arrived at the Drainage & Purification Works.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

The Act is primarily concerned with the health, safety and welfare of workers in office, shop and railway premises. It came into operation on the 1st August, 1964.

Below is a synopsis of the work done under the Act during 1970.

The number of registered premises covered by the Act is 531.

The number of persons employed in these premises totalled 3,842, comprising 1,464 males and 2,378 females.

A total of 775 visits of all types was made to premises and of these 289 were general inspections.

10 accidents were reported during the year under Section 48 of the Act. These were investigated but in no case was any further action necessary.

During the 289 general inspections, a total of 25 contraventions was found and 18 informal letters were sent to occupiers or owners drawing their attention to these matters and asking that steps be taken to remedy them.

The contraventions were as follows:-

Cleanliness	Section 4	5
Overcrowding	" 5	NIL
Temperature	" 6	2
Ventilation	" 7	1
Lighting	" 8	1
Sanitary Conveniences	" 9	NIL
Washing Facilities	" 10	NIL
Drinking Water	" 11	NIL
Clothing Accommodation	" 12	NIL
Floor and Passages	" 16	5
Dangerous Machinery	" 17	NIL
First Aid	" 24	4
Employment of Persons Order	" 49	7
Information for Employees Regulations		NIL

PET ANIMALS ACT.

This Act seeks to secure that the offering for sale of animals, birds, and fish shall be on suitable premises and that they shall be fed, watered and protected from the risk of fire.

No. of Licences issued for such premises 7

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT.

There was one registration of an establishment under this Act but the premises went out of use during the year.

CARAVANS.

There are no licensed caravan sites in the Borough. We are, however, still faced with the problem of nomadic dwellers invading vacant pieces of land. Your Council's Enforcement Officer is evicting these people from Council owned land with monotonous regularity.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Chimney Heights.

In 4 instances the Department was asked to advise on the height for new industrial chimneys. This was given in accordance with the memoranda on chimney heights issued as a guide under the Clean Air Act, 1956.

New Furnaces

1 notification of the installation of a new industrial furnace was received.

Atmospheric Pollution Recording Apparatus.

An 8 port volumetric and smoke filter apparatus installed in the Church Street Offices is working satisfactorily, the results from which are passed on to Warren Springs Laboratory.

RAINFALL

Month	Inches		Rainfall for the past ten years	
	1969	1970	Year	Inches
January	2.62	3.22		
February	2.20	2.44		
March	2.33	1.54	1961	22.73
April	1.56	1.87	1962	22.79
May	6.10	.79	1963	20.90
June	1.60	2.39	1964	19.49
July	2.50	1.79	1965	27.89
August	3.20	4.44	1966	24.93
September	.90	1.43	1967	26.81
October	.21	.87	1968	27.66
November	3.43	3.30	1969	28.97
December	2.32	1.21	1970	25.29
TOTAL:	28.97	25.29	Average: 24.75	

PUBLIC CLEANSING, REFUSE AND SALVAGE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

For a period of six weeks in August and September the Refuse Destructor Plant was out of use while extensions to the furnaces and general maintenance were carried out. During this time refuse had to be tipped and consequent difficulties had to be overcome. Following extension the plant worked much more efficiently.

Some difficulty was experienced in the disposal of bulky light scrap which it is not an economic proposition to bale and the sale of broken glass was not always consistent. Ordinary baled tins and baled paper and cardboard were sold as hitherto.

The weekly collection of refuse was maintained with only slight disruption at Bank Holiday times. Occasional complaints are received concerning untidiness which is associated with the "skip" method employed but in fact the Department receives more bouquets than brick bats in this connection and the method employed is the cheapest available.

Vehicles and Equipment.

The following is a list of vehicles and equipment owned by the Department during the year under review (apart from the separation and incineration plant itself).

- 3 S.D. Fore and Aft container bulk loaders.
- 5 S.D. Fore and Aft Refuse Freighters.
- 1 Morris Van for salvage.
- 1 Morris Van.
- 1 Massey Ferguson Mechanical Shovel.
- 1 Metal Baling Press (ex Destructor Plant - Not in use)
- 1 Paper Baling Press.
- 1 Elevator for loading baled paper.
- 1 Commer metal bodied lorry for clinker from Plant and general use.
- 1 Bedford metal bodied lorry for clinker from Plant.

COSTING.

- | | |
|--|----------|
| + The cost of collection and disposal of refuse and salvage for the finance year 1970/71 | £101,584 |
| + The income was | £8,106 |
| + The nett costs being | £93,478 |
- + These figures do not include administration costs.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF DOMESTIC AND TRADE REFUSE.

Loads of refuse taken to incinerator	6,271
Loads of refuse taken to Broadwaters Tip	831
Total number of loads of refuse removed	7,102
Loads of salvage removed	1,256
Loads of destructor waste taken to tip	1,520

RECORD OF SALVAGE FOR THE YEAR 1970/1971.

The weights of the salvaged materials have been segregated and are set out below.

Materials	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	£
Baled Waste Paper	316	19	2	3442 . 27
Baled Destructor Scrap	346	7	2	1507 . 75
Cullet (Broken Glass)	105	11	0	110 . 67
Light Scrap Iron	55	2	1	82 . 74
TOTAL:	824	0	1	£5143 . 43

OTHER INCOME.

Incineration charges	£559.50
(1st April 1970 to 31st March 1971	
Removal of Trade Refuse Charges	£2143.53
(1st April 1970 to 31st March 1971	

ABANDONED VEHICLES.

During 1970, Part III of the Civic Amenities Act 1967 gave powers to and eventually placed a duty upon Local Authorities to deal with abandoned motor vehicles. Arrangements are in force with a local car breaker and although the procedure is complicated it has been carried out smoothly. Where the owner of an abandoned vehicle can be traced he becomes liable to pay a fee of £6 where removal and disposal of the vehicle is carried out by the Council.

No. of vehicles removed during year:

(a) By owners	51
(b) By Council	16

